

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 /073 W
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R 041440Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9777
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1332

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CSCE SHUM YO
SUBJ: AMNESTY REPORTED

REF: BELGRADE 742

1. CONFIRMING RUMORS REPORTED REFTEL, LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SECRETARY ALEXANDAR GRICKOV HAS TOLD WESTERN JOURNALISTS ON BACKGROUND THAT WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES WILL ANNOUNCE AN AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS, INCLUDING MIHAJLO MIHAJLOV. TIMING IS NOT DEFINITE, ACCORDING TO AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT RESIDENT HERE, BUT AMNESTY WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CONNECTION WITH REFORM OF LAWS ON POLITICAL OFFENSES WHICH ARE NOW CONSIDERED UNNEEDED ARTIFACTS OF PRE-1948 YUGOSLAVIA.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD FROM TWO SOURCES THAT KARDELJ WILL SOON BE GIVING A MAJOR SPEECH CONNECTED IN SOME WAY WITH "DEMOCRATIZATION". AMNESTY AND REFORM OF CERTAIN LAWS MIGHT WELL BE ANNOUNCED AT THAT TIME. IF SIGNIFICANT REFORMS DO OCCUR, THEY WILL BE IN LARGE MEASURE DUE TO INFLUENCE OF CSCE AND WILL BE A VERY POSITIVE RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE FROM OUR STANDPOINT. IT, OF COURSE, REMAINS TO
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BE SEEN WHAT THESE REFORMS WILL MEAN IN PRACTICE IN LONG RUN. YUGOSLAVS HAVE EVERY REASON TO EXAGGERATE THEIR IMPORTANCE. FACT THAT THEY ARE LEAKING THIS NEWS TO WESTERN PRESS SHOWS THEIR SENSITIVITY ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND DESIRE TO MAINTAIN RELATIVELY LIBERAL PUBLIC IMAGE. YORK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: AMNESTY REPORTED
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, YO, CSCE, (GRICKOV, ALEXANDAR), (MIHAJLOV, MIHAJLO)
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